



Washington State Gambling Commission

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Unlicensed Gambling Activities

Bowling Sweepstakes, Dice and Coin Contests, Promotions,
Sports Wagering, Gambling Devices, Antique Slot Machines

Businesses may offer the two gambling activities below without getting a gambling license.

Bowling Sweepstakes

RCW 9.46.0269(2) and RCW 9.46.0345

There are two approved methods for sweepstakes available to bowling establishments:

Sweepstakes #1

- Players contribute to a pool.
- Rules must be posted.
- Players knock down marked pins in specified positions.
- Proprietor does not participate in proceeds from prize fund.
- Records are open to public inspection.

Sweepstakes #2

- Players purchase tickets at no more than \$1 each.
- Rules are posted.
- A drawing is held from the tickets purchased.
- Winner of drawing must bowl a strike.
- All money goes to the winner or to charity.
- Records are available for inspection by participants, gambling Commission agents or other law enforcement representatives.

Dice and Coin Contests

RCW 9.46.0305

Patrons of a food or beverage business may roll dice or flip coins to determine who will pay for:

- Food / beverage to be consumed on the premises; or
- Coin operated music on the premises.

**If you or someone you know
have a gambling problem call
800.547.6133**

Below is general information about gambling.

Promotional Drawings

RCW 9.46.0356

See our "Promotions" brochure for information on promotional contests of chance that can be offered by commercial businesses.

Drawings that require a direct or indirect cost to enter is considered a raffle. Raffles can only be offered by charitable or nonprofit organizations. See our "Raffle" brochure for more information.

Social Card Games

RCW 9.46.0325

A commercial food or drink establishment must get a license from us before allowing card games where wagers are placed.

Sports Wagering

RCW 9.46.0335

See our "Sports Wagering" brochure for information on sports wagering for individuals and businesses.

Gambling Devices

RCW 9.46.0241 and RCW 9.46.235

Slot machines, video pull-tabs machines, and other electronic games of chance are illegal in the State of Washington. However, **antique** slot machines are allowed if:

- It is at least 25 years old (antique); and
- It is **not** operated for gambling purposes.

Operating an antique slot machine is legal only if it is played at no cost or with coins provided at no cost by the machine owner.

An operator may award a prize for high score only if an electronic amusement or video game requires skill instead of a chance to win.

To inquire about the availability of this document in an alternate format, please call 360.486.3466 or 800.345.2529, ext. 3466.
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